



Listuguj  
MI'GMAQ GOVERNMENT

## Nnuimtmo'taqan Agnutas'g Listugujg: Interview with Councillor Chad Gedeon

**October 31<sup>st</sup>, Listuguj, QC** – This is the transcript from a video interview with Councillor Chad Gedeon that was published on our YouTube channel, ListugujMigmaqGov. This is the third interview for our new segment, Nnuimtmo'taqan Agnutas'g Listugujg.

### Transcript:

**H: Hilary Barnaby**

**C: Councillor Chad Gedeon**

H: Me' talolqioq Listugujewa. Ni'n teluisi Hilary Barnaby. Hi everyone. My name is Hilary Barnaby. I'm the Communications Officer for the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government. Thank you for tuning in to this episode of Nnuimtmo'taqan Agnutas'g Listugujg. Today, I'm joined by Councillor Chad Gedeon. How are you today, Chad?

C: I'm doing good. Thanks for having me.

H: Great. Since this is your second term in Council, what differences did you see coming back to the council table?

C: Actually, this time around it's great to see more women in a leadership position. It's good to see more development that's happened like with the Joe Metallic Memorial Ice Rink, the splash pad for our youth, the outdoor gym and the public park for the kids to play with. Also, this time around I'm more active, involved with committees. I'm on the finance committee for the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government. I'm on the finance committee for the Mi'gmawei Mawiomi Secretariat. I'm part of the committee for the Cannabis By-Law. Recently, I've been added to the Inter-Harmony Project Board and I'm also a board member of the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Development Centre.

H: Great. Can you describe or elaborate on any of your duties on any of those committees that you mentioned?

C: Like I mentioned earlier, I'm on the Cannabis By-Law Committee as a representative for Chief and Council. I sit on the committee. My duties are to work with the committee in

obtaining information from community members and implementing a lot of ideas that we gather with legal advice to help develop our Cannabis By-Law.

H: Great. What is your opinion of the Code of Conduct?

C: The Code of Conduct, to me, has its ups and downs because it's compared a lot to the Indian Act. Like I stated, my opinion is that it has its good and bad. I know there's many parts that are open for amendment, but on the good part it helps prevent Chief and Council from overstepping their bounds.

H: Are there any projects that you would like to see happen before this term is done?

C: Before this term is done, I would like to see a commencement planning for a culturally-based detox center and also a healing lodge because I know there are many things affecting our community but a lot of healing would need to happen with addictions.

H: So, now we will be moving on to our community questions. Some community members have lost trust in our government over the years. What can be done to repair that trust?

C: Balance and harmony. In my opinion, it's balance and harmony. To restore harmony, it must come from the top along with Chief and Council. They must work together for the betterment of our community. It's also hard to say that you speak on behalf of the community if you only know half of the community that's here. Myself personally, I know everyone who lives in every house through social outings and just sitting down and talking with our elders and some community members. Our role is to listen to our people, gather information and bring it back to the table so we can help better our community.

H: Great. The next community question is how do you envision Mi'gmaq governance in Listuguj and in Gespe'gewa'gi?

C: I see the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government along with the surrounding Mi'gmaq communities and the seven district tribal council working together for the bigger fight that's out there and that would be against corporations and governments who tend to challenge our treaty rights and our unceded lands. To me, us, we are indigenous and Mi'gmaq people who are born here to protect mother earth.

H: Thank you so much, Chad, for sitting down with me today.

C: Thank you for having me.

H: For everyone watching, if you have any questions that you'd like asked in future episodes, please feel free to send a message to the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government Facebook page. Thank you for tuning in to this episode of Nuimtmo'taqan Agnutas'g Listugujg. Wela'liog.